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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
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#17 (RCE) 3/24/04

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: **Leach**

Serial No.: **09/591,258**

Filing Date: **June 9, 2000**

For: **Method and System for Monitoring and Transmitting Utility Status via Universal Communications Interface**

Confirmation No.: **2469**

Art Unit: **2181**

Examiner: **Lee, C.**

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Technology Center 2100

Mail Stop Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION AFTER RCE

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated November 13, 2003, Applicant submits the following amendments and interview summary. In light of these amendments and the remarks made in the Interview conducted between Applicant and Examiner on March 9, 2004, which are summarized below, Applicant respectfully asserts that the all of the claims of the patent application are patentable, and that the application be allowed.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Applicant Interview Summary** begin on page 4 of this paper.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 16, 2004.

William R. Silverio - Reg. No. 45,383